

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 5, 6, 21, 22 and 25 to 27 were pending. Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the enzymatic signal transforming domain is a kinase. Thus, claims 1, 5, 6, 21, 22 and 25 to 27 are pending as shown above.

Claim Objections

Claims 21 and 25 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as allegedly being of improper dependent form for failing to limit the subject matter of a previous claim. (Office Action, pages 2-3). In particular, it was alleged that PhoQ is a kinase. *Id.*

The foregoing amendments obviate the objection. In addition, Applicants note that a kinase is defined as an enzyme that catalyzes the transfer of a phosphate group from a donor, such as ADP or ATP, to an acceptor, typically to activate an enzyme. Thus, a kinase is a type of phosphorylase, as previously recited.

35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph

Claims 21 and 25 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph as allegedly indefinite for allegedly insufficient antecedent basis, again on the grounds that PhoQ is a kinase. (Office Action, pages 9-10).

Applicants reiterate that a kinase is a type of phosphorylase. Nonetheless, the foregoing amendments obviate the rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, written description

Claims 1, 3-9, 21-22 and 25-27 were again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph as allegedly not adequately described by the as-filed specification for the reasons of record. (Office Action, pages 3-9).

Applicants submit the foregoing amendments obviate the rejection, as it is acknowledged that the PhoQ signal transduction cascade is exemplary of biodetecting sensors involving kinases. Accordingly, the rejection has been obviated.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner notes any further matters that the Examiner believes may be expedited by a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 7, 2011

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